

**MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF CORRECTIONS
QUARTERLY MEETING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2005
9:30 A.M.**

Board Members Present: Bernie Heier, Chair
Deb Schorr, Vice Chair
Larry Hudkins
Bob Workman
Ray Stevens

Others Present: Mike Thurber, Corrections Director
Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MINUTES OF THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2004

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the Board of Corrections Meeting minutes of October 28, 2004. Hudkins, Stevens, Workman, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

2 POPULATION STATISTICS

A. Population Comments

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, reported a small decrease in population, primarily at the Airpark facility. The jail is still over capacity and out of compliance with Nebraska Jail Standards. He said there has also been a small decrease in bookings, due to elimination of the U.S. Marshal contract.

B. Population Graphs

See agenda packet.

C. Monthly Statistical Report

See agenda packet.

3 DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Good News Jail & Prison Ministry

Thurber said Rev. Dan Morgan is working with volunteers from 46 area churches. A fund-raiser was held to support the ministry and approximately \$9,000 was raised.

B. Mental Health Jail Diversion Program

Thurber noted that the Board approved continuation of the Mental Health Jail Diversion Program and said the Community Mental Health Center will resubmit paperwork to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for continuation of funding.

C. Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) Updates

Thurber reported jail crew activities.

D. Security System Update

Thurber said the project is on schedule and should be completed by the end of December. He said some of the general population will be temporarily relocated to the Airpark facility when the electronic security system is installed.

E. Overcrowding/Expansion Discussion

Thurber said the jail has not been in compliance with Jail Standards for the last three year and requested authorization to move ahead with pre-architectural planning for expansion of the facility.

Stevens requested an estimate of costs.

Thurber said he initially budgeted \$165,000, but it was cut from the budget. He said Don Killeen, County Property Manager, indicated the cost will be twelve to thirteen percent of what is eventually built. Thurber said there are a number of factors to consider including location and classification of population.

Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, recommended that funding be through the Corrections budget so that it can be reflected in the per diem cost. He said the County's match could be funded through the Keno Fund.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded to direct Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, in coordination with Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, to gather information on jail consultants and architectural firms that would be willing to provide a preliminary assessment.

Schorr clarified that the Board is not ruling out a formal Request for Proposals (RFP).

ROLL CALL: Schorr, Hudkins, Stevens, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

4 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 a.m. Schorr, Hudkins, Stevens, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk